



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending May 15, 2016

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.5 days suitable for field work last week.

The New England region was drier this past week than the previous week, with better overall weather conditions for field work. Average weekly temperatures ranged from five degrees below normal to five degree above normal in the six states. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.10 to 2.04 inches. The drier conditions allowed farmers to make progress planting field corn. Pastures were growing well throughout the region. As such, many farmers moved their animals out to pastures last week. Orchardists remained busy pruning, fertilizing, and applying fungicides when necessary to fruit crops. Some orchardists made sure that bees were in their apple orchards for pollination. In Massachusetts, most cranberry plants were well into the green tip stage. In Vermont, insect activity has been relatively low this year, but some orchards were reporting green fruitworm and redbanded leafroller larvae. In New Hampshire, it was reported that there was damage to some apple and blueberry crops due to the cold weather snap in April. Similarly in Rhode Island, there was an almost complete loss of fruit on peach trees and some losses on apple trees due to an earlier cold snap. Some vegetable growers in the region were harvesting early greens, radishes, and asparagus. Other growers were planting vegetables, such as onions, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, lettuce, kale and cabbage. Field work this past week included plowing, disking, fertilizing, spreading manure, and laying plastic mulch and drip irrigation tape.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending May 15, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	17	71	12
SUBSOIL	0	16	78	6

Crop Conditions as of May 15, 2016

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
PASTURE AND RANGE	4	27	23	45	1

Crop Progress as of May 15, 2016

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	85
APPLES: PINK	67
APPLES: FULL BLOOM	37
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	83
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: PINK	55
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: FULL BLOOM	14
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	85
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): PINK	70
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): FULL BLOOM	12
CORN: PLANTED	28
CRANBERRIES (MA): GREEN TIP	90
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	92
PEACHES: PINK	66
PEACHES: FULL BLOOM	29
PEACHES: PETAL FALL	14
PEARS: GREEN TIP	68
PEARS: PINK	47
PEARS: FULL BLOOM	23
SPRING TILLAGE: SINGLE	49
STRAWBERRIES: GREEN TIP	69
STRAWBERRIES: PINK	44
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	30

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

May 15, 2016 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	77	34	56	+2	0.20	2	4.06	-1.68	15	93	+19	338
	Bangor_Intl_Air	82	35	57	+5	0.75	3	4.37	-0.58	18	108	+47	353
	Bethel	80	34	53	-2	0.65	3	4.04	-1.59	16	76	+14	265
	Bridgton	81	31	54	+2	0.33	2	4.62	-1.16	14	78	+29	274
	Caribou_Municip	76	32	52	+2	0.84	3	4.28	+0.10	13	67	+33	231
	Dover-Foxcroft	79	33	53	+3	0.69	3	4.35	-1.10	18	54	+29	237
	Durham	78	31	54	+2	0.28	3	4.29	-2.21	16	76	+28	310
	East_Surry	76	30	52	-2	0.55	3	6.01	-0.09	22	36	-9	235
	Eustis	77	30	49	+2	1.10	4	4.10	-0.64	17	34	+21	166
	Frenchville	73	31	50	+1	0.83	4	2.62	-1.66	15	45	+26	180
	Harmony	82	32	54	+2	1.05	3	4.99	-0.52	16	67	+21	280
	Houlton	78	26	52	+2	0.66	2	4.42	+0.07	16	59	+25	232
	Livermore_Falls	80	32	53	+3	0.58	3	4.69	-1.24	14	65	+35	258
	Millinocket_Wtr	79	31	51	-1	0.80	2	4.45	-0.90	12	43	0	197
	Moosehead	77	30	51	+4	1.12	4	4.20	-1.02	15	30	+18	179
	Portland_ME	74	35	54	+2	0.23	2	3.25	-2.92	16	77	+30	329
	Rangeley_2NW	77	27	48	-1	1.04	3	4.25	-0.48	18	27	+9	147
	Sanford	79	31	55	-2	0.53	3	3.56	-2.91	15	99	+11	334
	Topsfield_2	79	30	52	+1	1.08	2	5.70	+0.26	14	55	+21	235
	Turner	78	33	54	-2	0.26	2	5.06	-0.88	15	80	-8	290
	Wesley_2W	81	28	53	+3	0.90	3	5.55	+0.05	11	52	+21	246
	West_Rockport	76	34	54	+3	0.65	3	5.02	-1.87	17	60	+26	262
	Whiting	73	33	52	+2	0.52	2	5.29	-1.51	15	48	+28	272
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	82	33	53	+1	1.15	3	4.59	-0.28	16	65	+16	248
	Bradford_2	81	32	52	-5	0.38	2	3.28	-2.73	14	62	-41	261
	Colebrook	78	27	50	-2	1.06	4	4.84	+0.45	19	47	+8	173
	Concord	81	32	56	+2	0.50	3	3.22	-1.48	18	138	+49	418
	East_Milford	80	37	57	+2	0.30	3	2.85	-2.80	18	124	+17	412
	Epping	80	32	56	+2	0.34	2	3.95	-2.06	21	106	+16	370
	Errol_AP	80	28	49	0	1.13	3	5.10	+0.72	18	41	+23	182
	Greenville	78	36	55	+2	0.19	1	3.60	-1.93	17	92	+25	344
	Hancock	80	32	55	+1	0.60	3	3.61	-2.26	18	87	+14	314
	Jaffrey_Silver_	79	34	56	+3	0.30	3	3.23	-2.30	18	103	+36	367
	Jefferson	78	32	52	-2	1.68	3	5.20	+0.73	18	66	-4	247
	Keene_AG	83	28	54	-2	0.38	3	3.16	-2.00	17	88	+5	346
	Lakeport_2	80	39	56	+2	0.57	3	3.58	-1.56	16	112	+29	374
	Lebanon	82	28	54	-2	1.40	3	4.07	-0.47	17	123	+47	374
	North_Conway	81	33	55	+1	0.45	3	4.41	-1.60	16	98	+32	307
	Tamworth_4	79	32	53	+2	0.58	3	5.02	-1.36	19	68	+30	249
	Wolfeburro	77	37	56	+2	0.41	1	3.46	-1.68	16	101	+18	362
Vermont	Averill	76	25	48	+2	0.93	3	4.57	-0.45	14	38	+29	144
	Bennington_AP	80	28	53	+1	1.10	3	4.29	-1.54	20	121	+56	402
	Burlington_Intl	82	33	55	-1	0.92	3	3.51	-0.95	19	119	+18	361
	Corinth	82	29	50	-4	1.38	3	4.39	+0.29	16	42	-30	214
	Johnson_2N	79	30	50	-3	1.04	3	5.19	+0.27	15	57	+6	225
	Marlboro_Raws	80	35	55	+4	0.73	3	5.59	+1.32	21	91	+45	325
	Montpelier_AP	80	33	51	-3	0.83	3	4.10	+0.00	18	73	+1	264
	Newport_AG	79	32	51	-5	1.33	3	4.14	-0.51	16	54	-42	216

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2016					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	83	29	51	-2	0.53	3	3.86	-1.85	15	62	-1	259
	Rutland_AG	81	28	52	-5	0.92	3	4.00	-0.44	19	72	-42	294
	Springfield_VT	80	29	53	-1	0.98	3	3.05	-2.87	17	97	+31	344
	South_Lincoln	77	27	50	-3	0.85	3	3.72	-2.54	15	47	+7	225
	Sutton	78	26	49	-3	2.04	3	6.68	+2.16	20	41	+3	208
	Walden	76	25	46	-5	1.52	3	5.83	+1.31	20	19	-19	146
	Woodstock	81	29	52	-2	0.93	3	4.01	-1.36	16	82	+15	304
Massachusetts	Amherst	80	30	56	-1	0.59	3	4.25	-1.61	18	125	+15	435
	Barre_Falls_Dam	80	28	55	+2	0.42	4	4.59	-1.18	23	87	+30	336
	Bedford_Hanscom	78	37	58	+2	0.14	2	3.86	-1.95	20	138	+18	449
	Beverly_Ag	76	29	54	-3	0.30	3	4.08	-1.83	18	76	-42	343
	Birch_Hill_Dam	80	29	55	+3	0.36	2	3.27	-2.23	19	91	+34	354
	Boston_Logan_In	77	46	61	+4	0.13	2	4.30	-0.88	19	152	+15	485
	Chatham_AP	72	37	55	+4	0.22	3	6.66	+0.91	20	75	+25	353
	Chicopee_Westov	82	27	57	+1	0.38	3	3.38	-2.48	19	156	+46	471
	Edgartown	74	38	57	+3	0.25	3	7.16	+1.19	22	91	+11	412
	East_Brimfield_	79	34	56	+2	0.43	4	5.42	-0.54	23	100	+15	376
	Fitchburg	82	34	59	+3	0.25	2	3.02	-3.26	17	164	+48	489
	Greenfield	83	32	57	+1	0.53	3	4.03	-1.83	21	120	+10	407
	Hyannis_AP	71	34	56	+2	0.27	3	6.90	+1.57	21	83	+18	376
	Maynard	84	34	59	+3	0.38	3	4.61	-1.20	19	141	+21	451
	New_Bedford	75	34	57	+1	0.27	3	5.68	-0.45	20	110	-8	421
	Newburyport	78	35	56	0	0.32	3	3.85	-2.40	22	94	-13	363
	North_Adams_Har	80	28	54	+1	0.89	3	4.30	-2.38	21	120	+61	399
	Norwood	80	31	58	+1	0.10	2	3.12	-2.70	18	143	+8	462
	Pittsfield	78	32	53	-2	0.59	3	4.30	-1.97	20	93	+11	366
	Plymouth	76	32	57	+2	0.16	3	5.05	-1.37	21	106	+6	392
	Taunton_4NW	81	36	60	+4	0.31	3	5.76	-0.11	24	130	+14	447
	Westfield_Barne	81	29	57	+3	0.49	3	3.80	-2.61	19	159	+78	482
	West_Otis	80	33	56	+2	0.57	3	4.66	-2.22	23	107	+39	410
	Worcester	76	38	58	+3	0.15	3	4.36	-1.66	21	124	+33	413
	Worthington	78	28	52	-2	0.58	2	5.17	-1.19	21	74	+7	308
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	71	37	57	+2	0.23	3	5.08	-0.93	20	95	+6	415
	Providence	77	40	59	+2	0.38	2	5.39	-0.56	22	161	+15	504
	Westerly-Wester	73	37	57	+1	0.29	2	5.88	-0.19	21	112	+3	443
	Woonsocket	79	35	59	+3	0.25	2	6.39	+0.22	18	126	+8	448
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	74	44	59	+2	0.42	3	4.59	-1.34	22	179	+27	549
	Danbury_AP	77	34	56	-3	0.49	3	4.56	-1.98	22	146	-5	487
	Hartford_Bradle	82	38	59	+1	0.30	3	4.22	-1.77	20	184	+6	533
	Meriden-Meriden	80	34	58	+3	0.26	3	3.30	-3.62	21	174	+53	528
	Norfolk	79	33	54	+1	0.77	3	4.88	-2.00	18	81	+13	338
	Norwich	79	39	59	+2	0.23	3	5.55	-1.05	20	150	-7	490
	Staffordville	79	31	55	-2	0.35	3	5.86	-0.52	20	74	-27	346
	Thomaston_Dam	81	34	57	+2	0.61	4	4.80	-1.64	24	121	+21	439
	West_Thompson_L	80	36	57	+2	0.22	2	5.83	-0.51	17	104	+7	395
	Willimantic	81	33	59	+4	0.30	2	4.90	-1.48	20	183	+82	534

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

First cutting is coming in as haylage. Corn planting is taking a back seat to grass harvest on the larger dairies. Corn ground is still cold and damp with the continued off and on rain showers this week.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward

Warm and sunny days with a few cool nights, corn planting well underway and producers making progress with first hay cutting. Vegetable growers harvesting early greens, radishes and asparagus.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Busy week planting corn, some just emerging, and the ground is still pretty cold and dry. Preparing to mow first cutting which is lite due to dry weather; storms over past few weeks amounted to about 1 and 3/4" total. Apples varied from full bloom to petal fall. Picking asparagus.

MAINE

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

The weather has been up and down from warm and sunny to cool and windy. Grass is growing, even though it has been fairly dry. Spring tillage is progressing. Apples are blossoming.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Huge swings in temperature this past week from the 30s to the 80s. Rain slowed field work. Pastures are growing well.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins

Manure spreading and tillage in progress.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Below normal temperatures slowing crop growth.

FRANKLIN, James M. Newland

Following an overcast week, Franklin County received a week of 70 degree weather. With one day's low dropping below freezing overnight, farmers were busy protecting early plantings under remaining row cover. Early plantings of sweet corn were protected under plastic for, hopefully, the last freeze of the season. The week was windy which had a drying effect upon topsoil moisture. Orchard crops are approaching full bloom. Asparagus harvest has fully commenced.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Warmer temperatures finally made it feel like spring! Farmers were busy spreading manure, fertilizing, plowing, disking, laying plastic and other spring activities. Crops being harvested include asparagus, lettuce, spinach, kale. Ramps and fiddleheads are also being collected. Many farmers have moved animals out to pastures. Orchardists have sprayed with fungicide and are watching cool night temperatures.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Back to dry conditions with continued cool weather for the most part. The week ended with very windy conditions and elevated danger for forest fire. Most cranberry plants are well into elongation stage (green tip) with the exception of beds where growers held a spring pest control flood (late water).

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP, Kelly McAdam

Night temperatures have been close to freezing this week; concerns with apple trees at pink or in full bloom.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Sunny conditions most of the week. Great weather for being out in the field. Farms made progress with planting field corn; still a few farms finishing up field prep. Animals have been turned out on pasture, and some places were starting to get ready for first cutting. Vegetable farms continued with planting.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Dry start to the week allowing for field prep to go at a good pace. Corn planting has begun on lighter soils. Turning to cool, wet weather later in week. Still some snow flurries; a few frosty mornings.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Good weather this past week allowed many farms to make progress on tillage and laying plastic mulch. Some farms have begun planting cold tolerant crops such as potatoes and onions.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruits: Orchardists made sure bees were in apple orchards. Apple varieties were at full bloom on Tuesday to petal fall by Saturday, May 14. Blueberries were starting to bloom. Pruning peach trees, blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. Fertilizing orchards and other fruit plantings. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees. Vegetables: Fields being plowed, disked, fertilized, and limed. Laying plastic mulch and drip irrigation tape. Making successive planting vegetable crops, including planting sweet corn. Harvesting spinach, asparagus, and rhubarb. Field Crops: Farmers are fertilizing hay fields, spreading manure, plowing, disking, fertilizing, and planting corn.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Greenhouse cucumbers about ready to be harvested. Harvesting asparagus and greens. Planting in the field cold hardy vegetables such as onions, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, lettuce, kale and cabbage. Bees delivered to orchards and now are very busy at pollinating apple blossoms. Monitoring pests and spraying protective fungicides accordingly. The week ended with high winds and very cold temperature (upper 30s).

STRAFFORD, Elaina Enzien

It appears that there was some apple crop and blueberry crop damage due to the cold weather snap in April.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

It continues to be cooler than average this week but is warming up some. Windy conditions this week. Planting continues to be about 2 weeks behind. We continue to see almost a complete loss of fruit on peach trees, and some losses on apple trees also.

VERMONT

ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw

Wet weather since Friday, May 13 led to an apple scab infection period. Growers were generally well-covered with protective sprays. Fire blight is not a significant concern with the onset of cool weather, but some southern Vermont orchards were at high risk on Friday if the bacteria was present and active in their orchard. However, 2015 was not a big fire blight year so little infection is expected. Orchards are blooming now, and a period of warm, sunny weather on Saturday, May 14 may have allowed for good bee activity; warmer, sunnier weather expected this week may improve pollination conditions. Bloom is relatively light this year in most orchards after a heavy crop in 2015 and some blossom clusters are showing damage from the April 5 cold event of this year. Insect activity is relatively low, but some orchards are reporting green fruitworm and redbanded leafroller larvae. Grapes are just starting to push growth in the Champlain valley, and flea beetle may be a concern if cool weather slows shoot development.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Warm, sunny weather prompted everyone into the fields for tilling! Fruit trees are starting to blossom, especially in the southern half of the state.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

What a week in Franklin County, Vermont. Warm temps and some dry weather got the corn planters going and the grass growing. Leaves are on their way and the berry plants are green. We are all hoping that a frost does not come our way that would really set things back. We need a nice weekend to get things moving in the gardens so folks can plant when home from work. Pastures are doing great with good moisture and now some growth with the warmer temps.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

Activities this past week included some limited manure spreading and corn planting. Hay fields and pasture grasses are starting to take off with the warmer temperatures. Some farms have begun grazing. Grass in the hayfields are tall enough now to end manure spreading until after first cut.